

[54] **VISUALLY ASSISTED METHOD FOR TRANSFER OF DATA WITHIN AN APPLICATION OR FROM A SOURCE APPLICATION TO A RECEIVING APPLICATION**

[75] Inventors: **Anthony M. Peters**, Bedford; **Robert J. Torres**, Colleyville, both of Tex.

[73] Assignee: **International Business Machines Corporation**, Armonk, N.Y.

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Primary Examiner—Thomas C. Lee

Assistant Examiner—Ayni Mohamed

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Whitham & Marhoefer

[57] **ABSTRACT**

Data is transferred between files within an application program or between multiple, independent, simultaneously active application programs appearing concurrently on a computer display screen using a visually assisted method. Data to be transferred from a first location is marked on the computer display screen. Subsequent optional selection of either a Cut or a Copy function causes a distinctive border to appear around the marked data. An input device may then be used to move the bordered area to a new location on the computer display screen without alteration or movement of the originally marked data. A data transfer symbol appears within the bordered area during the data transfer operation to signify that such an operation is in progress. Further selection of a Paste function causes the marked data to be inserted at its new location and deletion from the computer display screen of the distinctive border and of the data transfer symbol. Additionally, the originally marked data is deleted from the computer screen display if the Cut function was chosen, while, if the Copy function was chosen, the originally marked data is unmarked and left unaltered at the conclusion of the data transfer operation.

7 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

